Separate Act for Central Economic Intelligence Bureau

5027. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to enact a separate Act for the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, so that it can function as an apex body for economic crimes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that lack of field formations for the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau has hampered its activities;

(d) when the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau started working; and

(e) the services from which the post of Director-General and Special Secretary in the Central Intelligence Bureau can be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has reviewed the working of CEIB and decided to take appropriate steps for broadening the scope of its activities and strengthening its organisational set-up accordingly.

(d) The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau started functioning in July, 1985.

(e) The post of Director-General and Special Secretary in the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau is filled up from amongst the officers of the Indian Customs and Central Excise Service and the Indian Revenue Service.

New VRS for Public Sector Banks

5028. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Banks' Association has given final touches to a new VRS to offload over 50 per cent of the 7.73 lakh workforce of the public sector banks;

(b) whether the new VRS is a natural corollary to the VRS enforced last year; and

(c) if not, the difference between the earlier and the proposed VRS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Permission to States for getting loans from World Bank / foreign countries

5029. SHRI AIMADUDDINAHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been contemplating a new economic policy permitting the State Governments to supplement the overdrafts from the Reserve Bank of India with Structural Adjustment Loans from the World Bank and the Central Government's grants with grants direct from foreign countries, to enable the States to overcome revenue deficits; if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(b) whether any of the State Governments has been granted such permission, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. State Governments are not allowed to directly borrow or receive grants from World Bank / foreign countries. However, Government of India, in the instance of three States, has taken World Bank assistance to supplement the resources required for fiscal reforms in these States. This amount is passed on to the States as Additional Central Assistance. The States which have availed of such assistance are Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Bank lending for Food and Agro Processing Sector

5030. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that loans given by banks to food and agro processing sector falls under priority sector lending and achievements of banks in this regard is monitored regularly by RBI; and

(b) if so, the details of the performance of each public sector bank in lending to food and agro processing sector during the last two years, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL); (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the following items within the food and agro-based processing